GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6816
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2002
BENEFIT TO COFFEE GROWERS
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the various schemes introduced or likely to be introduced by the Government for the benefit of the small and marginal coffee growers in the country particularly in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) the financial assistance provided to each State under above mentioned schemes during each of the last three years; and

(c) the further allocation made for 2002-03 State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) The Coffee Board has been implementing various Coffee developmental schemes covering both small and marginal coffee growers as well as the large growers in the country. The research department of the Board is working on various disciplines viz. agronomy, soil chemistry, plant-protection, post harvest technology, breeding and tissue culture to develop technologies to improve the competitiveness of the Indian coffee. The Board has also been providing extension services for transfer of technology as well as implementation of developmental schemes. During the 9th plan period, the Board implemented an exclusive small sector developmental scheme in three traditional coffee growing states viz. Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The scheme envisaged subsidy for water augmentation, quality upgradation and installation of pulping machinery. Further the Board operated another scheme for setting up of Self Help Groups aimed at organizing groups of small growers of a particular region to take up activities like development of community godowns, processing centres, market information cell etc. To set up Self Help Groups, the Board extended an one time grant of Rs.2 lakhs per group. In addition, during 2001-02, to mitigate the price crisis faced by the coffee growers the Board also provided 5% interest relief on working capital loans availed by small coffee growers.

(b) The financial assistance provided under various schemes to Karnataka and Tamil Nadu is given below:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Karnataka	145.89	115.72	835.58
Tamil Nadu	7.01	4.43	24.54

(c): For the year 2002-03, the Coffee Board has been allocated a sum of Rs.50 crores for implementing various coffee developmental schemes. The state-wise allocation for the same is yet to be made.